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WASHINGTON LABOR MARKET

September 1986

Washington State
Employment Security

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Commissioner

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Employment and Training
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U.S. Department of Labor

Highlights

Summer Jobs Lower Unemployment

Total employment in Washington State rose 13,500 between July and August largely because of seasonal growth in food processing and the trade and service industries. Reflecting the increase in employment opportunities, total unemployment dropped from 169,300 and 7.6 percent of the labor force in July to 160,600 and 7.2 percent in August.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose 12,000 in August, including 6,400 additional jobs in manufacturing. Food product firms led the expansion with a gain of 4,100 as processing began on a variety of summer fruits and vegetables; including peaches, beans, sweet corn and cauliflower. Lumber and wood products employment was 2,300 higher than in July because of the settlement of the labor dispute involving The Weyerhaeuser Company and its loggers and mill workers. Fire hazard conditions, however, led to restrictions which limited logging activity during August. Aerospace continued to expand with a gain of 700 from July.

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	Aug. 1986* (Prel.)	July 1986* (Rev.)	Aug. 1985
Civilian Labor Force	2,220,700	2,215,900	2,118,800
Total Employment	2,060,100	2,046,600	1,968,000
Total Unemployment	160,600	169,300	150,800
State Unemployment Rate	7.2	7.6	7.1
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	6.7	7.0	6.9

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

In the nonmanufacturing industries, gains were partially offset by a loss of 5,900 in public education. The drop was seasonal but greater than usual between July and August. A strike delayed the opening of Seattle schools in 1985. As a result, they closed for the summer in July rather than in June this year.

On the positive side, employment in the service industries (hotels-motels, amusements, business and medical services) rose 3,100 while retail outlets added 2,300 workers. Business picked up in both industries as the tourist season reached its peak. County fairs and summer camps (YMCA, Girl Scouts, etc.) provided many temporary trade and service jobs in August, while back-to-school shopping boosted employment at department and apparel stores. Construction employment continued its seasonal expansion, up 2,900, with ideal weather for outdoor work.

Employment Growth Strong Over The Year But Unemployment Also Up

Nonfarm wage and salary employment advanced 52,100 between August 1985 and 1986. The increase of three percent exceeded that of the nation, 2 1/2 percent, and was large relative to annual job gains in recent years. Moreover, the 52,100 new nonfarm jobs which developed over the year substantially exceeded the increase in the total population of the state as well as the working-age population. The total population of the state rose 35,600 between April 1985 and April 1986, while the growth in the working age population was estimated at 24,100. Nonetheless, total

unemployment rose nearly 10,000 between August 1985 and 1986.

The apparent reason for the jump in unemployment in the face of a strong rise in employment, is that most of the new jobs occurred in the trade and service industries and were largely filled by women and youth. On the other hand the growth in unemployment resulted mainly from jobs lost in manufacturing, mostly by adult men. Few of them went to work in the expanding trade and service industries. Jobs in these industries generally not only pay considerably less than most manufacturing jobs but often provide only part-time employment.

Unbalanced Growth

Together the trade and service industries accounted for nearly two-thirds of the year-to-year increase in payroll jobs. Manufacturing employment rose only 3,000 year to year, but apart from aerospace which added 9,100 jobs, employment in manufacturing was down 6,100. The gain in aerospace masked sizable losses in lumber-wood products (down 2,000), primary metals (down 1,200), machinery (down 900), and other transportation equipment--mainly shipbuilding--(down 1,500). Even in instruments, a major part of high-tech, employment dropped 500 over the year.

While manufacturing employment has shown little growth in the state, it has actually declined over the year nationally. Both nationally and in this state the weakness in manufacturing results from foreign competition. Until a solution to that problem is found, the economy rests on an unstable foundation.

MANUFACTURING

Canada Responds To Proposed Duty on Lumber

The Canadian government has offered to raise its stumpage rates by about ten percent provided the United States does not impose a duty on Canadian lumber. Stumpage rates are the price charged to log government-owned timber in Canada. Representatives of U.S. lumber firms claim that the Canadian government subsidizes its lumber industry by offering low stumpage rates. While timber from federal and state land in the U.S. is sold by competitive bid, stumpage prices are set by the government in Canada. Reports indicate the British Columbia government has charged lumber companies less than five percent of what firms pay for standing lumber in national forests in Washington State.

The Canadian government, however, has denied any timber subsidy, claiming difficult terrain and other factors make lumber production costs equal in both the U.S. and Canada. It attributes the increasing lumber sales by Canadian firms in U.S. markets to the depressed value of the Canadian dollar. The value of the Canadian dollar dropped from 96 cents to less than 73 cents in terms of the U.S. dollar over the last ten years. Nonetheless, representatives of U.S. lumber firms estimate low stumpage rates in effect give Canadian firms a 32 percent subsidy.

Whether true or not, domestic lumber production has declined substantially in recent years while imports from Canada have increased dramatically. Between 1977 and 1985, softwood lumber consumption in the U.S. rose slightly over eight percent but softwood imports from Canada jumped 40 percent. By contrast, softwood lumber production in the western United States fell ten percent since 1977. In western Washington alone softwood lumber production dropped 18 percent from 1977 with a 15 percent cutback coming since 1983 alone. The loss of lumber jobs has been even larger as domestic mills attempted to meet Canadian competition through automation. In Washington State, employment in the lumber industry dropped from 54,000 in 1977 to 37,900 in 1985, a loss of nearly 30 percent.

The International Trade Commission will decide by October 9 whether a subsidy exists and estimate its level. After another 75 days it must make a final injury determination. If such a determination is

made, the Secretary of Commerce must impose a countervailing duty. If imposed, it would dramatically increase domestic lumber production and employment. It would not be without adverse consequences, however. Prices would increase substantially, which would adversely affect the homebuilding industry. In addition, Canada would likely retaliate by placing duties on U.S. products. When a tariff was imposed in Canadian cedar shakes and shingles, Canada responded by imposing duties on U.S. made books, computers, and semiconductors. Activities related to foreign trade create thousands of jobs in the Washington State economy, and Canada is the state's second largest trading partner in international trade.

More Wage Cuts

Wage reductions accepted by Weyerhaeuser logging and mill workers are spreading to other firms as expected. In September, Simpson Timber Company workers voted 444 to 379 to accept a new contract in which average wages and benefits were reduced $2.90 per hour.

Boeing Loses One

News related to the state's aerospace industry and The Boeing Company, which is virtually synonymous, has been almost entirely bullish this year with Boeing building a record backlog of commercial orders by winning serveral record-breaking contracts. We were reminded in early October, however, that Boeing operates in a competitive environment too.

Northwest Airlines announced that it had agreed to purchase up to 100 midsized jetliners from Airbus Industrie, the European aircraft consortium. The value of the transaction could reach $3.2 billion if all 100 planes are delivered. Airbus, however, took a considerable risk in obtaining the order that other aircraft manufacturers, including Boeing, were apparently unwilling to accept. Under the purchase agreement, Northwest Airlines can cancel it orders for all but ten of the aircraft. In that event, Airbus would not recover development and production costs on the remaining aircraft. Northwest's current fleet of jetliners are almost all Boeing planes.

Boeing To Take Over Grumman

A Wall Street investment firm has predicted that The Boeing Company may attempt to take over the Grumman Corporation. They noted that both Boeing and Grumman are competing for a $40 billion Air Force contract to build a new advanced tactical aircraft to replace existing F-15s. In their opinion neither firm could win the contract alone. Grumman is located on Long Island in New York State.

New Seafood Plant For Anacortes

A joint venture by Japanese and American firms will begin construction of a $10 million seafood processing plant in Anacortes this fall. The plant will be in production in the spring and will employ about 200 workers. Company officials said they choose the site because of its west coast location, relatively low power and water rates, a good labor force, the availability of government job training programs and tax breaks.

NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Services Leads Growth

The services group led the expansion in the nonmanufacturing industries with a gain of 3,100 in August. Agricultural services, which includes yard care and landscaping services at private homes as well as commercial facilities, accounted for over one-third of the increase. Private organizations providing social services also added staff, especially those offering residential care to the elderly. Business service payrolls moved ahead with growth at personnel supply agencies which added workers to provide vacation fill-ins. Jobs in amusements increased because of county fairs, while payrolls at nonprofit organizations were up because of summer camps. Hotels and motels rounded out the gains in August with the tourist seasonal at its seasonal peak.

Consumers Still Spending

Retail outlets added 2,300 jobs in August with most of the gain at eating and drinking places. Seasonal growth in tourist business provided the major impetus but county fairs were an important source of temporary food service jobs.

Nationally, retail sales rose 0.8 percent in August following gains of 0.3 percent in July and 0.2 percent in June. Except for automobiles, retail sales were unchanged in August. Declining prices for gasoline, apparel and some other products, however, masked an increase in the volume of goods sold.

Department Store Workers Laid Off

New owners of Frederick & Nelson, a Seattle-based department store with 14 stores in Washington State and Oregon, laid off 100 middle managers at the end of September. Another 200 administrative staff were expected to be laid off. The company cited increased competition as the reason for the layoffs. Those terminated received severance payments, and some were offered lower paying positions.

Construction up 2,900

Employment in the building trades moved up 2,900 from July and in August was up 2,400 over the year. Major gains over the month and over the year occurred in homebuilding which has benefited from declining interest rates. Nationally, housing starts were estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,822,000 in August, up slightly from July and nearly

five percent higher than in August 1985. Housing starts have held relatively steady over the past several months, but August marked the ninth consecutive month that the annualized estimate was over 1.8 million units. Starts totaled only 1.1 million units during the 1981-1982 recession and 1.7 million units in 1985.

In contrast to the modest increase in total starts over the month, up 0.4 percent, starts on single family units rose 3.0 percent. Starts on apartment units, however, fell 4.3 percent. Many analysts expect that apartment construction will remain weak for at least a year because of high vacancy rates and the elimination of tax-shelter incentives in the new tax bill. They expect housing starts to total 1.85 million units this year and between 1.7 and 1.8 million units in 1987.

Everett Navy Base

Uncertainty still surrounds the proposed Everett Navy Base. In early October a House-Senate conference committee agreed to provide funds for the base but not until environmental questions on dredging are solved and until the state appropriates money to cover a share of the cost to improve roads near the base. The committee, moreover, authorized less than half of the $95.4 million requested for base construction by the administration.

If built, the Everett Navy Base could create nearly 12,000 new jobs in Snohomish County by 1990, according to the federal Office of Economic Adjustment.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

The outlook for the economy over the next several months remains uncertain. The main area of concern is the industrial sector which remains weak because of foreign competition. The trade deficit, however, shrank sharply in August, but the significance of the decline was questioned by several businessmen and economists.

Industrial Sector Remains Weak

Leading Indicators Fall

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the government's main barometer of future economic activity, fell in August for the third time in the last four months. The Index dropped 0.2 percent following a one percent rise in July and losses of 0.2 percent in June and 0.1 percent in May. Analysts said the trend in the Index suggest economic growth will remain slow in coming months. The drop in the Index in August, however, largely resulted from the lowering of government price supports for cotton. The price of cotton fell 59.2 percent as a result and caused a sharp drop in sensitive material prices which is one component of the Index. According to the Commerce Department, the Index would have increased 0.1 percent if the price of cotton hadn't changed.

Other leading indicators on the negative side in August were a drop in new business formations, a decline in building permits, an increase in weekly unemployment claims, a drop in orders for plant and equipment and faster business deliveries (which suggests a slowdown in new business). Positive indicators for the month included an increase in the money supply, growth in the workweek, an increase in stock prices, growth in credit outstanding, and an increase in factory orders for consumer goods.

Business Economists Predict Slow Growth For 1987

A concensus forecast by the National Association of Business Economists predicts slow growth for 1987, no recession or boom. The Gross National Product (GNP) will increase 2.9 percent from 1976 to 1977 according to their forecast. The business economist were more conservative than the Congressional Budget Office which projects a 3.5 percent gain in the GNP for 1987 or the Office of Management and Budget which forecasts a 4.2 percent increase.

The economists see the trade deficit as a continuing problem. Most expect the dollar's value to drop an additional five to ten percent in 1987 but more than half feel that a drop of 20 percent will be needed to eliminate the deficit.

Trade Deficit Lower In August

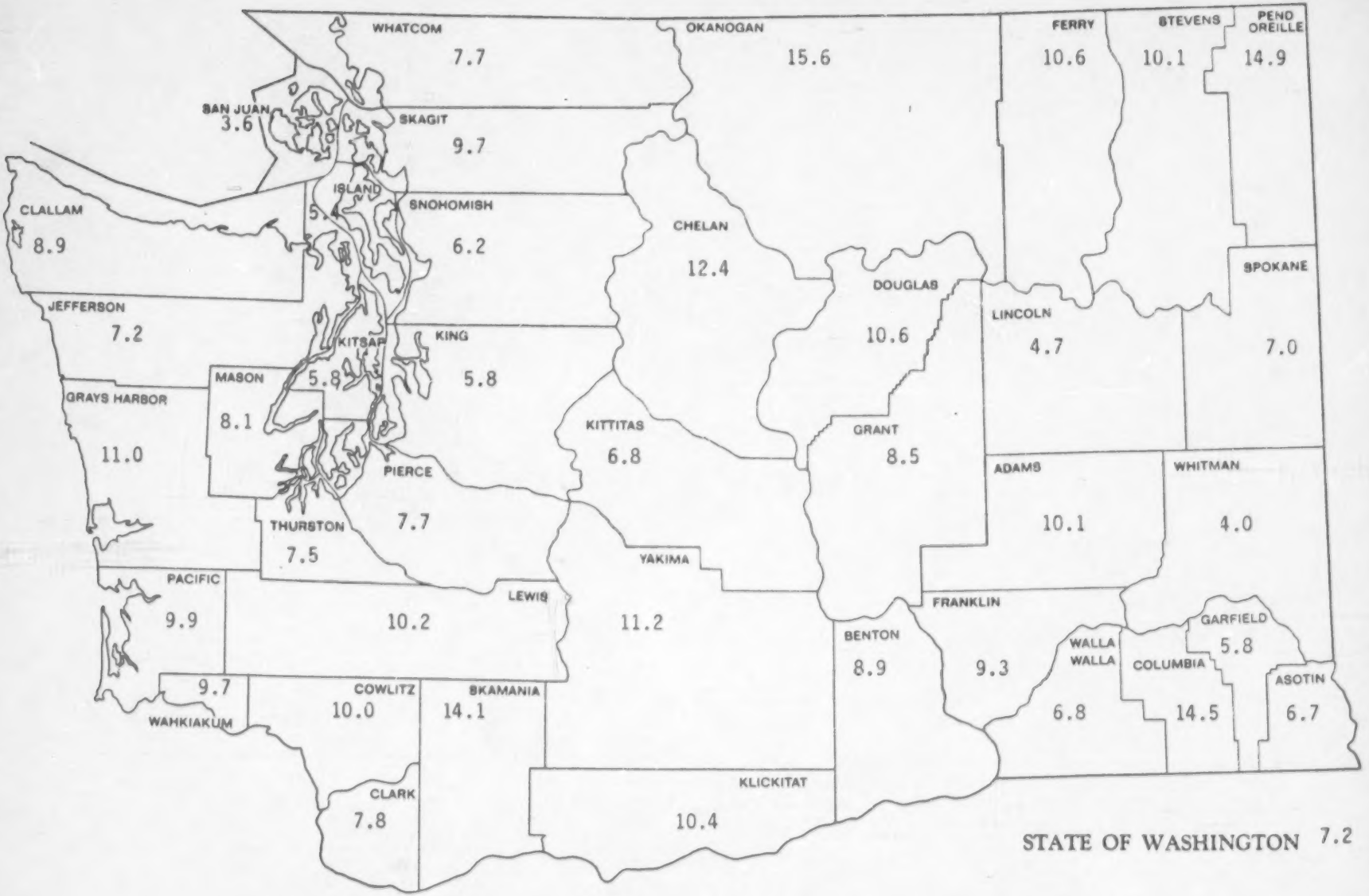
The trade deficit declined to $13.32 billion in August from $16.05 billion in July. While some analysts saw the improvement as the accummulated effect of the dollar's decline and suggested that it may mark the beginning of a turnaround, others viewed it as a statistical aberration. The Department of Commerce itself cautioned that the August figure was preliminary. But executives in some industries reported declining imports and rising exports and predicted continuing improvement.

An example of the change is the increasing inventory of unsold Japanese autos in the U.S. At the end of August they totaled 304,690 units, up 62 percent from one year earlier. Japanese auto makers have had to raise their prices from 11 to 15 percent over the year because of the rising value of the yen in terms of dollars.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1967=100)

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	August 1986	July 1986	August 1985	August 1986	July 1986
U.S. City Average	328.6	328.0	323.5	+1.6	+1.6
Seattle-Everett	N/A	323.7	N/A	N/A	+0.5



STATE OF WASHINGTON 7.2

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED	Aug. 1986 (Prel.)	Jul. 1986 (Rev.)	Aug. 1985 (Rev.)	Jul. 1985 (Rev.)	Numerical Change: Jul. 86 to Aug. 86	Numerical Change: Aug. 85 to Aug. 86
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY.	1,773.0	1,761.0	1,720.9	1,710.6	+12.0	+52.1
TOTAL MANUFACTURING.....	302.7	296.3	299.7	295.9	+6.4	+3.0
Durable Goods.....	209.0	206.6	205.9	204.7	+2.4	+3.1
Lumber & Wood Products....	37.3	35.0 3/	39.3	39.2	+2.3	-2.0
Furniture & Fixtures.....	3.8	3.8	3.6	3.6	0.0	+0.2
Stone Clay & Glass Prod...	6.5	6.5	6.8	6.7	0.0	-0.3
Primary Metal Industries..	11.6 3/	11.6	12.8	12.8	+0.0	-1.2
Aluminum Prod.& Proc.....	7.6 3/	7.6	8.6	8.6	+0.0	-1.0
Fabricated Metal Prod.....	10.0	9.6	10.0	9.8	+0.4	0.0
Machinery.....	27.7	28.3	28.6	28.5	-0.6	-0.9
Machinery exc. Elect.....	15.5	16.0	16.3	16.2	-0.5	-0.8
Electrical & Electronic..	12.2	12.3	12.3	12.3	-0.1	-0.1
Transportation Equipment..	97.5	97.0	89.8	88.8	+0.5	+7.7
Aerospace.....	86.0	85.3	76.9	76.0	+0.7	+9.1
Other Transp. Equip.....	11.5	11.7	12.9	12.8	-0.2	-1.4
Instruments & Rel. Prod...	10.2	10.4	10.7	11.0	-0.2	-0.5
Misc. Manufacturing Ind...	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.3	0.0	+0.1
Nondurable Goods.....	93.7	89.7	93.8	91.2	+4.0	-0.1
Food & Kindred Products...	33.7	29.6	34.2 3/	32.1	+4.1	-0.5
Canned & Preserved Foods.	13.9	10.3	14.1	12.4	+3.6	-0.2
Apparel & Other Text.Prod.	6.7	6.5	6.3	6.1	+0.2	+0.4
Paper & Allied Products...	16.7	16.9	16.7	16.5 3/	-0.2	0.0
Printing & Publishing.....	17.6 3/	17.6	17.4	17.5	+0.0	+0.2
Chemicals & Allied Prod...	11.4	11.5	11.5	11.4	-0.1	-0.1
Other Nondurable Goods 2/.	7.6	7.6	7.7	7.6	0.0	-0.1
MINING & QUARRYING.....	2.9	2.9	3.0	2.9	0.0	-0.1
CONSTRUCTION.....	90.1	87.2 3/	87.7	86.0	+2.9	+2.4
TRANS.& PUBLIC UTILITIES....	97.9	96.8	96.5	96.0	+1.1	+1.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE....	445.6	442.4	427.9	425.7	+3.2	+17.7
Wholesale Trade.....	109.5	108.6	107.4	107.3	+0.9	+2.1
Retail Trade.....	336.1	333.8	320.5	318.4	+2.3	+15.6
FIN. INS. & REAL ESTATE.....	105.6	105.4	100.7	100.4	+0.2	+4.9
SERVICES.....	394.4	391.3	378.2	376.7	+3.1	+16.2
Health Services	121.6	121.2	118.0	117.6	+0.4	+3.6
GOVERNMENT.....	333.8	338.7	327.2	327.0	-4.9	+6.6
Federal.....	70.1	70.3	71.6	71.6	-0.2	-1.5
State & Local.....	263.7	268.4	255.6	255.4	-4.7	+8.1
Education.....	120.0	125.9	116.8	118.0	-5.9	+3.2
(WORKERS IN LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTES).....	0.5	3.2	0.2	0.4	-2.7	+0.3

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Excludes workers involved in labor-management disputes.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

DATE 9/30/86
Benchmark: 1985

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	AUGUST 1986 PRELIMINARY 1/				JULY 1986 REVISED 1/				AUGUST 1985 REVISED			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,220,700	2,060,100	160,600	7.2	2,215,900	2,046,600	169,300	7.6	2,118,800	1,968,000	150,800	7.1
Bellingham MSA	56,000	51,700	4,300	7.7	55,400	50,800	4,600	8.3	53,800	49,800	4,000	7.4
Bremerton MSA	72,700	68,500	4,200	5.8	72,500	68,100	4,400	6.1	68,300	64,600	3,700	5.4
Olympia MSA	71,000	65,700	5,300	7.5	71,700	66,000	5,700	7.9	66,100	61,500	4,600	7.0
Seattle PMSA	980,400	922,900	57,500	5.9	974,200	914,400	59,800	6.1	924,000	868,800	55,200	6.0
King County 2/	766,300	722,100	44,200	5.8	761,300	715,500	45,800	6.0	722,100	679,800	42,300	5.9
Snohomish County 2/	214,100	200,800	13,300	6.2	212,900	198,900	14,000	6.6	201,900	189,000	12,900	6.4
Spokane MSA	161,100	149,800	11,300	7.0	160,900	149,100	11,800	7.3	160,300	149,400	10,900	6.8
Tacoma PMSA	232,100	214,200	17,900	7.7	231,000	212,400	18,600	8.1	218,400	202,400	16,000	7.3
Tri-Cities MSA	70,100	63,800	6,300	9.0	70,400	64,000	6,400	9.1	68,400	62,700	5,700	8.3
Benton County 2/	52,900	48,200	4,700	8.9	53,100	48,300	4,800	9.0	51,700	47,300	4,400	8.5
Franklin County 2/	17,200	15,600	1,600	9.3	17,300	15,700	1,600	9.2	16,700	15,400	1,300	7.8
Vancouver PMSA	106,500	98,200	8,300	7.8	105,800	97,000	8,800	8.3	101,300	93,400	7,900	7.8
Yakima MSA	90,100	80,000	10,100	11.2	90,600	78,700	11,900	13.1	89,400	79,600	9,800	11.0
Adams	7,410	6,660	750	10.1	7,430	6,470	960	12.9	6,500	5,900	600	9.2
Asotin	8,790	8,200	590	6.7	8,690	8,090	600	6.9	7,660	7,100	560	7.3
Clallam	22,520	20,520	2,000	8.9	22,700	20,820	1,880	8.3	21,300	19,540	1,760	8.3
Columbia	1,660	1,420	240	14.5	1,710	1,390	320	18.7	1,610	1,440	170	10.6
Cowlitz	34,050	30,650	3,400	10.0	34,420	30,780	3,640	10.6	33,670	30,000	3,670	10.9
Ferry	2,830	2,530	300	10.6	2,860	2,550	310	10.8	2,540	2,290	250	9.8
Garfield	1,210	1,140	70	5.8	1,260	1,190	70	5.6	1,080	1,030	50	4.6
Grant	25,420	23,250	2,170	8.5	26,570	23,850	2,720	10.2	23,410	21,290	2,120	9.1
Grays Harbor	26,610	23,670	2,940	11.0	26,830	23,830	3,000	11.2	26,410	23,760	2,650	10.0
Island	16,980	16,060	920	5.4	16,610	15,640	970	5.8	16,670	15,700	970	5.8
Jefferson	7,450	6,910	540	7.2	7,370	6,840	530	7.2	6,940	6,480	460	6.6
Kittitas	11,510	10,730	780	6.8	11,350	10,350	1,000	8.8	10,940	10,180	760	6.9
Klickitat	9,060	8,120	940	10.4	9,210	8,230	980	10.6	8,200	7,410	790	9.6
Lewis	24,600	22,090	2,510	10.2	24,760	22,180	2,580	10.4	23,910	21,630	2,280	9.5
Lincoln	4,680	4,460	220	4.7	4,770	4,550	220	4.6	4,410	4,250	160	3.6
Mason	13,560	12,460	1,100	8.1	13,300	12,150	1,150	8.6	12,420	11,590	830	6.7
Okanogan	15,090	12,740	2,350	15.6	14,980	12,680	2,300	15.4	15,240	12,970	2,270	14.9
Pacific	7,380	6,650	730	9.9	7,380	6,600	780	10.6	7,200	6,330	870	12.1
Pend Oreille	3,550	3,020	530	14.9	3,610	3,140	470	13.0	3,690	3,170	520	14.1
San Juan	5,520	5,320	200	3.6	5,490	5,260	230	4.2	5,750	5,560	190	3.3
Skagit	33,490	30,230	3,260	9.7	34,890	31,540	3,350	9.6	32,830	29,670	3,160	9.6
Skamania	2,340	2,010	330	14.1	2,390	2,020	370	15.5	2,350	2,030	320	13.6
Stevens	11,930	10,730	1,200	10.1	12,050	10,710	1,340	11.1	11,480	10,300	1,180	10.3
Wahkiakum	1,240	1,120	120	9.7	1,290	1,150	140	10.9	1,280	1,150	130	10.2
Walla Walla	23,960	22,340	1,620	6.8	24,460	22,530	1,930	7.9	23,840	22,300	1,540	6.5
Wenatchee Labor Area	41,350	36,480	4,870	11.8	40,780	36,000	4,780	11.7	41,850	37,530	4,320	10.3
Chelan County 2/	28,010	24,540	3,470	12.4	27,720	24,220	3,500	12.6	28,310	25,240	3,070	10.8
Douglas County 2/	13,350	11,940	1,410	10.6	13,060	11,780	1,280	9.8	13,540	12,280	1,260	9.3
Whitman	16,350	15,700	650	4.0	16,340	15,660	680	4.2	15,820	15,380	440	2.8

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

9/30/86
Benchmark: 1985

	AUGUST 1986 PRELIMINARY 1/				JULY 1986 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,256,900	2,085,200	171,700	7.6	2,251,800	2,069,700	182,100	8.1
Bellingham MSA	57,000	52,400	4,600	8.1	56,300	51,300	5,000	8.9
Bremerton MSA	73,800	69,300	4,500	6.1	73,500	68,800	4,700	6.4
Olympia MSA	72,100	66,500	5,600	7.8	72,900	66,800	6,100	8.4
Seattle PMSA	995,700	934,200	61,500	6.2	989,100	924,700	64,400	6.5
King County 2/	778,200	731,000	47,200	6.1	772,900	723,600	49,300	6.4
Snohomish County 2/	217,400	203,200	14,200	6.5	216,300	201,200	15,100	7.0
Spokane MSA	163,700	151,600	12,100	7.4	163,500	150,800	12,700	7.8
Tacoma MSA	236,000	216,800	19,200	8.1	234,800	214,800	20,000	8.5
Tri-Cities MSA	71,400	64,600	6,800	9.5	71,600	64,700	6,900	9.6
Benton County 2/	53,800	48,800	5,000	9.3	54,000	48,800	5,200	9.6
Franklin County 2/	17,500	15,800	1,700	9.7	17,500	15,800	1,700	9.7
Vancouver PMSA	108,300	99,400	8,900	8.2	107,500	98,100	9,400	8.7
Yakima MSA	91,800	81,000	10,800	11.8	92,400	79,600	12,800	13.9
Adams	7,550	6,740	810	10.7	7,570	6,540	1,030	13.6
Asotin	8,930	8,300	630	7.1	8,820	8,180	640	7.3
Clallam	22,910	20,770	2,140	9.3	23,090	21,060	2,030	8.8
Columbia	1,690	1,430	260	15.4	1,760	1,410	350	19.9
Cowlitz	34,660	31,020	3,640	10.5	35,050	31,130	3,920	11.2
Ferry	2,860	2,560	320	11.1	2,910	2,580	330	11.3
Garfield	1,227	1,150	70	5.7	1,280	1,200	80	6.3
Grant	25,850	23,530	2,320	9.0	27,050	24,120	2,930	10.8
Grays Harbor	27,100	23,960	3,140	11.6	27,320	24,090	3,230	11.8
Island	17,240	16,260	980	5.7	16,850	15,810	1,040	6.2
Jefferson	7,580	7,000	580	7.7	7,490	6,920	570	7.6
Kittitas	11,700	10,860	840	7.2	11,540	10,470	1,070	9.3
Klickitat	9,220	8,220	1,000	10.8	9,380	8,320	1,060	11.3
Lewis	25,040	22,360	2,680	10.7	25,200	22,420	2,780	11.0
Lincoln	4,750	4,510	240	5.1	4,830	4,600	230	4.8
Mason	13,790	12,610	1,180	8.6	13,530	12,290	1,240	9.2
Okanogan	15,400	12,890	2,510	16.3	15,300	12,820	2,480	16.2
Pacific	7,510	6,720	790	10.4	7,500	6,670	830	11.1
Pend Oreille	3,630	3,060	570	15.7	3,680	3,180	500	13.6
San Juan	5,600	5,380	220	3.9	5,570	5,320	250	4.5
Skagit	34,080	30,600	3,480	10.2	35,490	31,890	3,600	10.1
Skamania	2,400	2,040	360	15.0	2,430	2,040	390	16.0
Stevens	12,150	10,860	1,290	10.6	12,270	10,830	1,440	11.7
Wahkiakum	1,260	1,130	130	10.3	1,310	1,160	150	11.5
Walla Walla	24,350	22,610	1,740	7.1	24,860	22,780	2,080	8.4
Wenatchee Labor Area	42,130	36,920	5,210	12.4	41,550	36,410	5,140	12.4
Chelan County 2/	28,540	24,840	3,700	13.0	28,260	24,490	3,770	13.3
Douglas County 2/	13,580	12,080	1,500	11.0	13,300	11,920	1,380	10.4
Whitman	16,590	15,890	700	4.2	16,570	15,840	730	4.4

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.